Considering the high density of traffic running through Ambala-Chandigarh route, the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways identified this stretch under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-Ill and also NHDP Phase-IIIA for four laning on BOT basis in March 2005.

The four/six laning of Ambala-Chandigarh section of NH 22 & 21 from Km 5.735 to 39.960 of NH-22 and Km. 0.000 to 0.871 of NH-21 is in progress on BOT basis. The Concession Agreement was signed on 16.11.2005 and the work has been started on Appointed Date i.e. 15.05.2006. The completion period is 30 months from the Appointed Date. The travel shall be reduced after completion of 4-laning.

Construction cost of National Highways

†1729. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction work on most of the National Highways in the country is allotted on the basis of B.O.T. (Build, Operate, Transfer) policy;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Government have allotted the said construction work during the years 2003-2004, 2004-05 and 2005-06; and

(d) if so, the maximum and minimum rate of constructing roads per K.M. during each year of the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) About 2211 km. length of National Highways has been awarded by the Government for the construction works on B.O.T. (Build, Operate, Transfer) policy during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06. The maximum and minimum rate of cost of construction on National Highways under BOT scheme per km. are given in the table below:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Year	Maximum rate of construction work per km. of BOT package (Rs. crore/km.)	Minimum rate of construction work per km. of BOT package (Rs. crore/km.)
1	2003-04	7.13	1.88
2	2004-05	7.36	1.38
3	2005-06	45.1	2.47

Broken bridges on National Highway 24

1730. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges that have broken down during the recent rains in Simdega district of Jharkhand on National Highway 24;

(b) why are these bridges not fortified during the last several years;

(c) by when this entire section of NH 24 would be doubled and made all weather road; and

(d) the problems encountered to maintain this section?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) NH-24 is between Delhi and Lucknow. However, Simdega is situated on NH-23 in Jharkhand. No bridge on NH-23 in Simdega district has broken down during recent rains.

(c) Widening of the entire section of NH-23 falling in Simdega district is being undertaken in a phased manner. Out of 69 km. single lane in Simdega district, the work of widening to two lane in 23 km. length is in progress. Widening of 18 km. length to two lane has been included in the Annual Plan 2006-07. Widening of remaining length will depend upon availability of funds and *inter se* priority of works.

(d) The problems encountered at present is existing single lane road width with inadequate carriage width. After the road is widened to two lane, the inherent problem of maintaining single lane will ease out.